

3/20/87

March 20, 1987

TO: Lawrence Chadzynski, Chief  
Center for Environmental Health Sciences  
Department of Public Health

FROM: Richard S. Johns, Chief  
Groundwater Quality Division

SUBJECT: Frederick Avenue PCB Site (J.E. Berger  
Corporation, 5300 Bellevue, Detroit) - Potential  
PCB Occupational Problem

During a meeting with Brian Monroe of my staff on January 23, 1987, he indicated to you that a potential PCB problem might exist within the actual J.E. Berger Corporation building, as opposed to the outside storage lots and surrounding residential and industrial vicinity. These outside areas have been and are continuing to be addressed by the company under the direction of our Department staff. As a part of addressing the cleanup of these PCB contaminated outside areas, small discarded wooden industrial floor blocks located in bins and containers in the storage yards were sampled prior to arranging appropriate disposal for them.

Sample results from these wooden blocks show PCB levels of 1800 parts per million (ppm) (See attached results for sample no. 143). While my staff has not been able to identify the exact source of these wooden blocks, it seems reasonable to suspect that the blocks could have come from inside the plant building where similar blocks currently cover the floor. While my staff has sampled the soil and other debris present in the loading dock areas of the plant where trucks drop off and pickup shipments, my staff has not sampled the wooden floor areas that are largely subject to human traffic and contact. Our Department does not believe, based on the extensive outside PCB sampling done to date, that the building is now serving as a source of contamination to the outside areas. However, based on the levels of PCBs present in the discarded floor blocks found outside, it seems prudent that your Department's Occupational Health Services Division evaluate this new information and consider whether further investigation and/or sampling by them is appropriate.

Please forward this information to them. Also, we would appreciate a copy of the air monitoring data that your Department collected at this location previously.

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Thank you for your continuing cooperation as well as that of your staff. If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Brian Monroe of my staff at 373-6808.

cc: Dr. John E. Waller, City of Detroit H.D.  
Ms. Stephanie Warner, MDPH, CEHS  
Mr. Anthony Pitts, GQD  
Mr. Andrew Hogarth, GQD  
Ms. Claudia Kerbawy, GQD  
Mr. Brian Monroe, GQD  
✓ File - Frederick Avenue PCB Site

*Richard J. Adams*

No.	Date	Time	Remarks and Description	Results*
137	10/15	2:31PM	Soil, grab, South curb of Palmer 138 feet West of building line at fire hydrant	<1
138	10/15	2:33PM	Soil, grab, North curb Palmer 133 feet West of building line West of Bellevue	14
139	10/15	2:44PM	Soil, grab, center of Bellevue 100 feet South of North building line	36
140	10/15	2:50PM	Soil, grab, center of Bellevue 21 feet North of North property line of Palmer	9.1
141	10/15	2:56PM	Soil, grab, Bellevue, West curb 107 feet North of North property line of Palmer	5.8
142	10/15	4:29PM	Soil, grab, lot 2, oil stained area near snow plow, 19 feet South of North fence, 86 feet West of East fence	34
✓ 143	10/15	4:31PM	Scraping off wood blocks in steel tub, lot 2, Northeast of Sample #142	1800
144	10/15	4:50PM	Soil, grab, lot 2, oil stain 50 foot Northeast of grid point D-4, 49 feet West of East fence	14
145	10/22	11:04AM	Wipe, on Frederick same location as sample 86 per 100 cm squared after cleaning with Penetone, floor dry and tenant sweeper	130 ug/
146	10/22	11:10AM	Wipe, on Frederick location at 87 after cleaning along with 145	160 ug/
147	10/22	11:35AM	Wipe, on Frederick location at 86 after more cleaning with above equipment	27 ug/
148	10/22	11:40AM	Wipe, on Fredrick at 87 after more cleaning	250 ug/
149	10/22	12:10PM	Soil, grab, 30 foot West of Southeast building corner on Frederick North Terrace area 44 inches South of the sidewalk and 3 inches below the surface before excavation	<10
150	10/22	12:12PM	Soil, grab, 135 feet West of building on the North Terrace of Frederick 3 inches below the surface of the sod and 4 feet South of the sidewalk before excavation	<10

\*ppm or as noted, ug = micrograms

## Data Summary Sheet

Date October 29, 1986

Project Bennett Engineering  
Berger Electric

Sample I.D./Sample Date

			#141	#142	✓ #143	#144	#149	#150	#151
Parameter	Units		10/15/86	10/15/86	10/15/86	10/15/86	10/22/86	10/22/86	10/22/86
Aroclor 1221	mg/kg		<0.5	<1	<100	<1	<1	<1	<0.5
Aroclor 1232	mg/kg		<0.5	<1	<100	<1	<1	<1	<0.5
Aroclor 1242	mg/kg		<0.5	<1	<100	<1	<1	<1	<0.5
Aroclor 1248	mg/kg		<0.5	<1	<100	<1	<1	<1	<0.5
Aroclor 1254	mg/kg		<0.5	<1	<100	<1	<1	<1	<0.5
Aroclor 1260	mg/kg		5.8	34	1800	14	<1	<1	8.4
Total PCB	mg/kg		5.8	34	1800	14	<10	<10	8.4

NOTE: The above concentrations are expressed on a wet weight basis.

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